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decedent, being a citizen of the United States, wherever resident, shall have declared in his will and testament that he elects that such testamentary dispositions shall be construed and regulated by the laws of this state, the validity and effect of such dispositions shall be determined by such laws. (Amended by L. 1911, ch. 244, in effect June 6, 1911)." (Decedent's Estate Law.)

U. S. Trust Co. v. Hard, 208 N. Y. 617.

A certain lack of modernity and the absence of any attempts at philosophic treatment deprive the book of much of the interest which attaches to all that relates to the contact of different civilizations and their resulting legal systems, but it remains a useful tool for the practitioner.

It is to be regretted that in America with its different legal systems in every state, no systemized endeavor is made to analyze the growing body of international private laws.

On the Continent there are numerous magazines for this purpose, but none are found in England and America and even the English Courts do not seem to have devoted to it the time and attention which its growing importance warrants.

FREDERIC R. COUDERT.

Hellas and the Balkan Wars. By D. J. CASSAVETTI. (New York: Dodd Mead and Co. 1914. Pp. 368.)

Considerable ignorance, no doubt, has prevailed among people generally in England, on the Continent, and in America, with regard to the Balkan States, their liberty and their recent development in wealth and power. The success of the allies in the war with Turkey aroused a good deal of interest in the Balkan people among intelligent readers; and many would be glad of an authentic, unbiased account of the recent wars and the accompanying events. Such a work, however, can only be expected from the pen of an expert historian who comes from an outside and neutral country, and who has had access to the official sources of the various participants in the two wars.

In the present instance, Mr. Cassavetti—an Anglo-Greek and an M.A. of Oxford—has attempted to tell the story of the part played by Greece in both conflicts. His motive is two-fold: To give the English-speaking people a correct and intimate picture of the Greek nation; and to furnish an accurate account of the naval and military campaigns of the Greeks in the two wars. The work is well done; and the author has related his facts in an interesting, straight-forward manner, with an evident intention of being impartial. He was in the Balkans during a part of the first war, and has obtained a good deal of information from Greek officers and men in service during both campaigns. Also from Commander Cardale of the British navy, who was an attaché of the Greek fleet. But it is evident that he has not had access to the Greek official documents and records, or to those of Turkey or of any of the other Balkan states. This is unfortunate, as it detracts materially from the value of his narrative—particularly as he treats all operations and manoeuvers solely from the Greek point of view.

Occasionally there is a tendency to over-estimate the work of the Greek forces. The story of the Macedonian, the Epirus, and the second war campaigns is well and clearly told; but, while the operations of Greece are highly praised, little is said of her allies. Even her best friend—Servia—receives but scant treatment. This is due, without doubt, largely to the greater familiarity of the writer with the movements of the Greek army. It is too bad he did not delay the publication of his book until he could have secured accurate information concerning the manoeuvres of the other armies, at least from Servia and Turkey. If this had been done it would have greatly enhanced the value of his volume. As it now stands, the work is more a testimonial of the efficiency and capacity of the Greeks as soldiers, than a history of the two Balkan wars. In this form, however, it is not without merit, since it demonstrates clearly that the Greek soldiery has very largely recovered its reputation, lost in 1897, for bravery and endurance.

Mr. Cassavetti has unfortunately given too much space to such disputed topics as the Albanian question and the "Bulgarian massacres"—particularly as, in each instance, he has given only one side of the picture. In Chapter XXIV the author makes a special effort to convict the Bulgarians of cruelty and inhumanity, but says that the Greeks were guilty of nothing beyond the usual excesses of war. He heads his chapter "Bulgarian Atrocities," when good taste alone should have led him to call it "Balkan Atrocities," and the merit of his case demanded that he admit some irregularities on the part of Turks, Serbs and Greeks—particularly in view of the recent report of the special commission appointed to investigate this whole question. If this chapter had to be written, it would have been better to have delayed the publication of the book until the author was in a position to tell the whole story of these atrocities. No one can readily deny what he says about the Bulgarians; and the testimony of King Constantine concerning the Greeks is above reproach. But a clear statement of the entire question, with a full citation of authorities, might have made the case of Greece stand out fairly well in comparison with the others.

The author has, moreover, laid himself open to considerable criticism by dogmatic statements upon points—either disputed by the best authorities, or extremely difficult to prove. On such an unsettled subject as the population of Macedonia he writes (p. 312): "The Macedonians so-called are admitted to be a mixed race in which the Slav and Greek strains largely predominate," (no mention of Bulgars and Vlachs or Roumanians), and in Central Macedonia, "the people of Greek sympathies outnumber the Bulgarian supporters two to one." In the first chapter he accuses the Bulgarians of cruelty and massacres in Macedonia before the wars, but claims that the Greek bands only defended Greek villages and "roamed the mountain districts of Southern Macedonia keeping alive the patriotism of the Greek peasants. On page 357 he states: "While the Turks had Greek representatives, such as Karatheodori Paslea in Berlin and others in similar posts, they kept their heads above water; but, since they have given up employing Greeks and have allowed the young Turks to persecute the Greeks, everything has gone wrong with them." And again, on page 311, "The Greeks say that the chief intellects in Bulgaria are people either of Greek descent or else pure Slavs."

The chapters by "Lascaris" and by the author on the Hellenic nation and the life of its people are so well done and so illuminating that one wishes more of the book had been devoted to "Hellas" and less to the war and its controversies. We have the author to thank for a delightful description of the personality and career of M. Venizélos, and "Lascaris" for interesting chapters on "Athens during the War," "The Spirit of Hellenism" and "Greek Women during the War." The last, however, is to be recommended for a fine description of the position of Greek women *before* the war. There are, also, good chapters on "The Future of Greater Greece" and "Agriculture." In the former the author says: "One result of the war has been to make the position of Greece secure as a nation in the Eastern Mediterranean." This is precisely what the Greeks wish *had been* accomplished, but which it really remains for the future to prove. It is still a question whether or not the Greek government can assimilate successfully the large territories acquired by the wars, and can create a prosperous and progressive state out of "Greater Greece." For the country is very poor, at present, industrially and agriculturally. Its resources are comparatively small; and, in many ways, the situation is so critical that only the most careful management and the employment of foreign capital on a large scale will make a successful issue possible.

Mr. Cassavetti has illustrated his volume with over fifty interesting photographs many of which were taken by the author, and several good maps. There is also an index; but no bibliography or citation of authorities.

N. DWIGHT HARRIS.

Imperial Germany. By PRINCE BERNHARD VON BUELOW, formerly Chancellor of the German Empire. Translated by Marie A. Lewenz. (New York: Dodd, Mead and Co. 1914. Pp. 342.)

The work is divided into two main parts entitled "Foreign Policy" and "Home Policy" respectively followed by a brief conclusion. In the first part the Ex-Chancellor deals with the development of Germany as a world power. He justifies Germany's entering world politics on the ground of necessity resulting from the growth of industry, the increase of population, and the development of foreign commerce. He declares that the international policy of Germany has not been contrary to Bismarck's continental policy, as critics have asserted, but an inevitable consequence for which Bismarck's policy paved the way. The growing importance of Germany's foreign commerce in turn necessitates a strong navy, not for attack but for protection. The German navy must, so Von Buelow asserts, be large enough so that no sea power could attack Germany "without grave risk." Beyond that it need not and should not go.

In connection with the growth of commerce and of the navy the Ex-Chancellor deprecates the attitude of suspicion on the part of England which is wholly without foundation so far as any thought of hostile action on the part of Germany is concerned. After considering at some length the important international relations between Germany and England the writer touches briefly on the relations between Germany on the one hand and the United States, Japan, the Triple Alliance, Turkey, Russia, and finally France on the other. He believes